



**The Monthly Newsletter of the Santa Rosa Photographic Society
Serving Santa Rosa and Sonoma County for over 34 years**

Focusing on...

Whales, Bears and Eagles — Oh My

by Alan Glazier

Southeastern Alaska is the trip of a lifetime for anyone. But to experience it on a small boat makes it that much more special. We chose to travel with Brenda Tharp and Jed Manwaring on the Delphinus, a 50 foot trawler that is based in the Bay Area during the winter but heads to the amazing waters of Southeast Alaska each summer.



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~ CALENDAR ~

JUNE

- 05 Digital entries due
- 11 Dinner with the Judge 5:30pm
Monthly Competition 7:00pm
- 25 Calendar images due
Program: Equipment and Software Demo 7:00pm
- 26 Newsletter items to Sheri

JULY

- 03 Digital entries due
- 07 Board meeting 7:00pm
- 09 Dinner with the Judge 5:30pm
Monthly Competition 7:00pm
- 20 Field trip, Hall of Flowers
- 21 Field trip, Sonoma County Fair
- 23 Program: Images from the Antarctic, Jim Thomason, 7pm
- 25 Newsletter items to Sheri

AUGUST

- 07 Digital entries due
- 08 Field Trip - Scavenger Hunt
- 13 Dinner with the Judge 5:30pm
Monthly Competition 7:00pm
- 27 Program: PSA TOPS, Elvira Lavell; Making Improved Prints. Diane Miller 7:00pm
- 28 Newsletter items to Sheri

~ EXHIBITIONS AND ONGOING CALLS TO ARTISTS ~

EXHIBITIONS, ETC.

Deadline 9 June: "Black and White" exhibition at The Center for Fine Art Photography, Fort Collins, Colorado; show of black and white images from 28 August to 26 September. Entry fee \$35 for three images. Some cash awards, plus one online exhibit award. Details at: <http://www.c4fap.org/cfe/2009blackwhite/blackandwhite.asp>

Deadline 13 July: "Wide Open" exhibit at Sebastopol Center for the Arts; show of all art types from 30 July to 6 September. Entry fee \$15 for one; \$40 for three pieces for nonmembers; \$10 / \$25 for members. Two cash awards. Details at: http://www.sebarts.org/visual/pdf/Wide_Open_Proposal.pdf

ONGOING CALLS TO ARTISTS

Santa Rosa Recreation and Parks Department: Exhibits at Finley and Steele Lane Community Centers and City Hall. To apply, go to Finley Community Center, 2060 West College Avenue, Santa Rosa, to pick up an application. Community Center hours are Monday - Friday, 8:00 am - 7:00 pm and on Saturday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm. For further information, call 707-543-4512; contact is Tara Matheny-Schuster, email tmatheny_schuster@srcity.org

The Atrium Gallery at Marin General Hospital mounts four shows a year of "healing art." The gallery is looking for local artists for future shows. Previous artists have included Ernest Braun. Send slides and SASE to Wende Heath, Institute for Health and Healing, PO Box 8010, San Rafael, CA 94912.

~ MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION ~

SPRS WEBSITE

<http://www.santarosaphotographicsociety.org/>

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION AND CORRECTIONS:

Contact Sheri Prager, Editor, The Positive Print

See SRPS roster for email address

~ Program ~

25 June 2009

Equipment and Software Demonstration

Get hands on with a Lensbaby or pinhole camera, see what you can do with new software, all with the expert and friendly assistance of fellow club members. Circulate among the tables - learn, schmooze, compare notes.

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Diane and Tanya | HDR (High Dynamic Range) |
| Drew | Lens baby |
| Greg | Corel Painter |
| Jerry | Proshow |
| Jon | Pinhole camera |
| Ira | Lightroom |

~ Good News! ~

Sharon and Gus Feissel will have a two person exhibition during the months of July and August at Chateau St. Jean Winery on Highway 12 in Kenwood.

Also, starting in June, Sharon and Gus will have some of their images on display at the Upstairs Art Gallery on the plaza in Healdsburg.

MAY COMPETITION RESULTS

GENERAL

Level B

- | | | |
|-----|-----------------------------|--------------|
| 1st | Viewing the Wine Country | Steve Lowry |
| 2nd | River Shacks | Bob Walker |
| 3rd | Somber Reminders of Slavery | Darryl Henke |

Level A

- | | | |
|-----|----------------|----------------|
| 1st | Lizards | Kevin O'Connor |
| 2nd | Prom Night | Harold Moore |
| 3rd | Domestic Bliss | Adele Wikner |

Level AA

- | | | |
|-----|-----------------------------|----------------|
| 1st | Puddle Reflection Guatemala | David Henneman |
| 2nd | Oak Leaf Hydrangea | Drew Jackson |
| 3rd | Luminous Jellyfish | Bob Orr |

Level M

- | | | |
|-----|--------------------|-----------------|
| 1st | A Palouse Sunrise | Russ Dieter |
| 2nd | Colors in Coleus | Barbara Haskins |
| 3rd | Memphis Juke Joint | Jerry Meshulam |

CREATIVE

Level B

- | | | |
|-----|----------------------|--------------|
| 1st | Photo Haiku: Clarity | Lance Plaza |
| 2nd | Comic Car | Darryl Henke |
| 3rd | No entry | |

Level A

- | | | |
|-----|-----------------------|--------------|
| 1st | Poppy Trio III | Dick Weston |
| 2nd | Caught in the Ripples | Ira Gelfman |
| 3rd | Take Off | Phillip Hann |

Level AA

- | | | |
|-----|------------------------|--------------|
| 1st | Amber in Africa | Nadine Amoss |
| 2nd | Gnarly Vine in Mustard | Marcia Hart |
| 3rd | No entry | |

Level M

- | | | |
|-----|--------------------|-----------------|
| 1st | A vision of Beauty | Marilyn Brooner |
| 2nd | Metamorphosis | Edmond Bridant |
| 3rd | Gull | Barbara Larson |

NATURE

Level B

- | | | |
|-----|-------------------------|-------------|
| 1st | Early Bird | Anne Abrams |
| 2nd | Leaf Reflections | Bob Walker |
| 3rd | Death Valley Sand Dunes | Phil Wright |

Level A

- | | | |
|-----|---------------------------|--------------|
| 1st | Egrets Building Nest | Harold Moore |
| 2nd | Young Male Elephant Seals | Phillip Hann |
| 3rd | Western Tailed Blue | TJ Mills |

Level AA

- | | | |
|-----|---------------------|----------------|
| 1st | Sea Anemone | Janet Gelfman |
| 2nd | Egret Nest Building | Joe Simons |
| 3rd | Mountain Goat Mama | Linda Caldwell |

Level M

- | | | |
|-----|------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1st | Bald Eagle Watching for Prey | Marilyn Brooner |
| 2nd | Dogwood Merced River | Russ Dieter |
| 3rd | No entry | |

2008 End of Year Winners A—Nature

"SNOWY EGRET ON ALERT" BY MARCIA HART



MANY THANKS TO BILL DUNGAN FOR JUDGING THE MAY COMPETITION.

(continued from page 1)

Upon arriving in the small fishing town of Wrangell, I was immediately enchanted with the mystique of Alaska. We spent an extra day prior to boarding the Delphinus exploring this fishing village that has escaped the commercial overrun of the large cruise ships. We wandered on foot as far as we could, exploring the harbor, the museum, and the totem park. Honestly, we didn't know how special it was until we spent some time in Juneau later in the trip.



The first day of our journey, our first expedition took us on a small flat bottom jet boat up the Stikine River where we saw eagles, wildflowers and a calving glacier. Though we couldn't get all the way up to the glacier, this side trip only gave us a glimpse of what we were going to experience.



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Upon boarding the Delphinus, we were immediately shocked by its size (or should I say lack thereof). Our cabin was little more than a closet. And I had no idea how twelve of us were possibly going to eat in the “living” area. Surprisingly, within a day or so, we were completely comfortable with the surroundings and felt right at home. Captain Ronn and his crew made the experience so easy. Each evening, we would moor in a quiet cove, have a delicious dinner and relax. Sometimes we launched the kayaks that were strapped on the top of the Delphinus.

Our first day out the Delphinus took us to Anan Creek reserve, a black bear refuge. At Anan Creek there is a viewing platform and a photography blind that you sign up for as you arrive. We were all able to sign up for the blind during our all day stay there. Brenda warned us that we might not see many bears. But she couldn't have been more wrong. We probably saw close to two dozen bears at Anan Creek including many cubs. The docents worked hard to keep the viewers away from the viewees (the bears). We even saw our first brown bear casually fishing in the stream. The black bears, which are much smaller, gave the brown plenty of room. Each of us shot hundreds of images of bears and eagles. They were everywhere.



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On our second day, Captain Ronn took us to a trail where we could try our macro skills. We found plenty to photograph in the temperate rain forest, including fungi and blueberries.



Pack Creek, a brown bear reserve, was our destination for the next day. Though we didn't see as many bears as we did at Anan Creek, we did see several. Sometimes even a little too close for comfort.

The following days had us in search of whales and fjords. We were lucky enough to see several breaching whales along with many tails. The fjords were wonderlands of clouds clinging to the sides of mountains with streams running all the time.



I would recommend this trip to anyone who wants to see Alaska in a unique way. It is not your typical cruise by any stretch of the imagination. Information can be had at www.dolphincharters.com.

~ FIELD TRIPS 2009 ~

THERE IS NO FIELD TRIP SCHEDULED FOR JUNE

A further reminder that the June field trip to Quarryhill Botanical Gardens has been cancelled. You might want to check with the Garden in mid June to see if the lilies are in bloom. If so, it is well worth a trip to photograph.

The August field trip, a joint scavenger hunt with the Marin Photo Club, is scheduled for 8 August -- note the change in date.

Another opportunity for photography may be found at Sturgeon's Mill, a steam-powered lumber mill located at 2150 Green Hill Road, Sebastopol, CA 95472. They will probably power up the saws and cut the logs beginning at 10am on May 30th and 31st. Cameras and tripods are welcome unless it gets crowded, in which case the tripods might need to be put aside. My experience from shooting there is that it gets a bit dark inside so you will want a tripod and/or fast lenses. You can bring a picnic lunch and sit under the trees. For further information and directions go to www.sturgeonsmill.com.

~ Janet Gelfman

THE SIGN UP BINDER FOR ALL FIELD TRIPS FOR 2009 IS ON THE SIDE TABLE AT EVERY MEETING. PLEASE NOTE IF YOU PLAN TO BRING FAMILY AND/OR FRIENDS WITH YOU.

~ FORUM FEATURE ~

~ Messin' Around ~

30 June 2009

Drew Jackson

Messin' around with images from last summer. Just thought I would share.



Janet Gelfman

Hi Drew -- This is what my work area resembles when I am working on collages. Where in the world did you find this gooey mess? Love all the colors. Maybe replace blocks of gray at upper right and left or tease it out in transform or????? Thanks for sharing. Janet

Greg Gorsiski

cool colors. is that can OOF? or am I working too many hours again?

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Drew Jackson

Janet Gelfman: Where in the world did you find this gooey mess? Love all the colors.

This was taken at an umbrella factory in Thailand. Customers pick out an umbrella and the design they want. Then an artist paints it while you watch. It was fun.

Janet Gelfman: Maybe replace blocks of gray at upper right and left or tease it out in transform or?????

This is one of those rare times where I like those areas. It accentuates the "poured out" nature of the image. Kind of like looking at a creek flowing towards you.

Greg Gorsiski: cool colors. is that can OOF? or am I working too many hours again?

Good eye my friend.

Yes, the can is out of focus and I can't for the life of me figure out why. It was taken with my 18 - 70 lens set at about 50mm. The pan is in focus and the can is not. I tried messing with it and blurring it out to make it look even more out of focus, but I couldn't find anything that worked. The only thing I can figure is there was some moisture on the lens. (The humidity was incredible!)

Greg Gorsiski

Yeah. I comment on the can because it doesn't look like a focus issue. You may be right, something on the lens.

Try this...

Dupe the image and use A LOT of smart sharpen. Go into Advanced TAB and set a ton of sharpen for Highlights, some Shadow. Also use some Unsharp Mask which would attack the edges. Add a layer mask to this layer, and fill it with black so it's all hidden from view. Then with white paint and a large feathered brush, "paint" in where you want the sharpening to be. If need be, lower the opacity of that layer to tone down the sharpening.

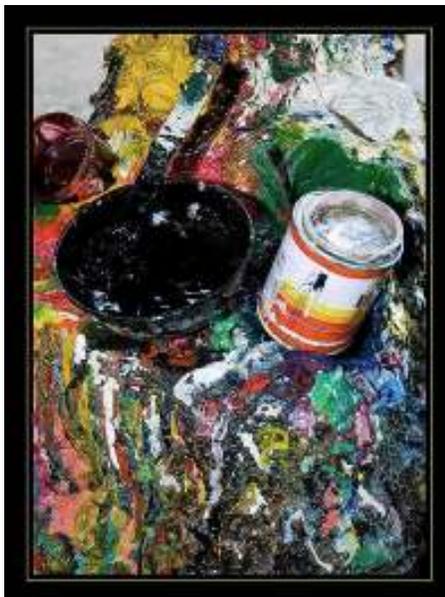
Here's my result...



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here's my sharpened layer...



Here's my layer mask... (cropped down to see it better, and against a white background)



Here's a Before and After comparison. It's not perfect, but if you spend some time with it I think it could help.



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The thing to keep in mind is you might have to sharpen the crap out of it before you show just a little of what you need when blended over the original. Making it more organic a change.

Greg Gorsiski

Sorry. Couldn't resist.

Drew Jackson

Oh, . . . my ***! Don't apologize.

That is over the top!! It really pushes what my eye saw in this image.

P.S. Thanks for the suggestion about layer mask/sharpening. I'll work on that.

Greg Gorsiski

I think this image is about the motion of the paint, not necessarily the composition. The flow of the paint off that corner edge. (your original, not my fake stuff)
This is very much a waterfall image.

